MARVEL LEGACY
PUNISHER: WAR MACHINE
223
THE PUNISHER
ROSENBERG
VILANOVA
LOUGHRIDGE

MARVEL COMICS
PROUDLY PRESENTS:

FRANK CASTLE WAS A DECORATED MARINE, AN UPSTANDING CITIZEN, AND A FAMILY MAN. THEN HIS FAMILY WAS TAKEN FROM HIM WHEN THEY WERE ACCIDENTALLY KILLED IN A BRUTAL MOB HIT. FROM THAT DAY, HE BECAME A FORCE OF COLD, CALCULATED RETRIBUTION AND VIGILANTISM. FRANK CASTLE DIED WITH HIS FAMILY. NOW, **THERE IS ONLY...**

THE PUNISHER

FRANK CASTLE IN **PUNISHER: WAR MACHINE** PART SIX

FRANK CASTLE HAS TAKEN HIS WAR AGAINST CRIME GLOBAL AFTER NICK FURY HANDED HIM A VERSION OF THE WAR MACHINE ARMOR AND POINTED HIM TOWARD CHERNAYA, A SMALL COUNTRY WHOSE GOVERNMENT WAS VIOLENTLY OVERTHROWN BY GENERAL PETROV. THE PUNISHER BURNED, BLASTED, AND BOMBED HIS WAY THROUGH PETROV'S MEN–INCLUDING FORMER S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS WHO SOLD OUT TO PETROV WHEN S.H.I.E.L.D. DISBANDED–AND BROUGHT THE GENERAL OUT OF HIDING. FACE-TO-FACE WITH FRANK, PETROV'S MEN SQUIRRELED THE GENERAL AWAY IN A SECURE BUNKER WHILE THEY BATTLED THE PUNISHER. HOWEVER, JUST AS THE FIGHT WAS REACHING ITS CLIMAX, PETROV INITIATED HIS LAST-DITCH PROTOCOL AND LAUNCHED A NUCLEAR WARHEAD...

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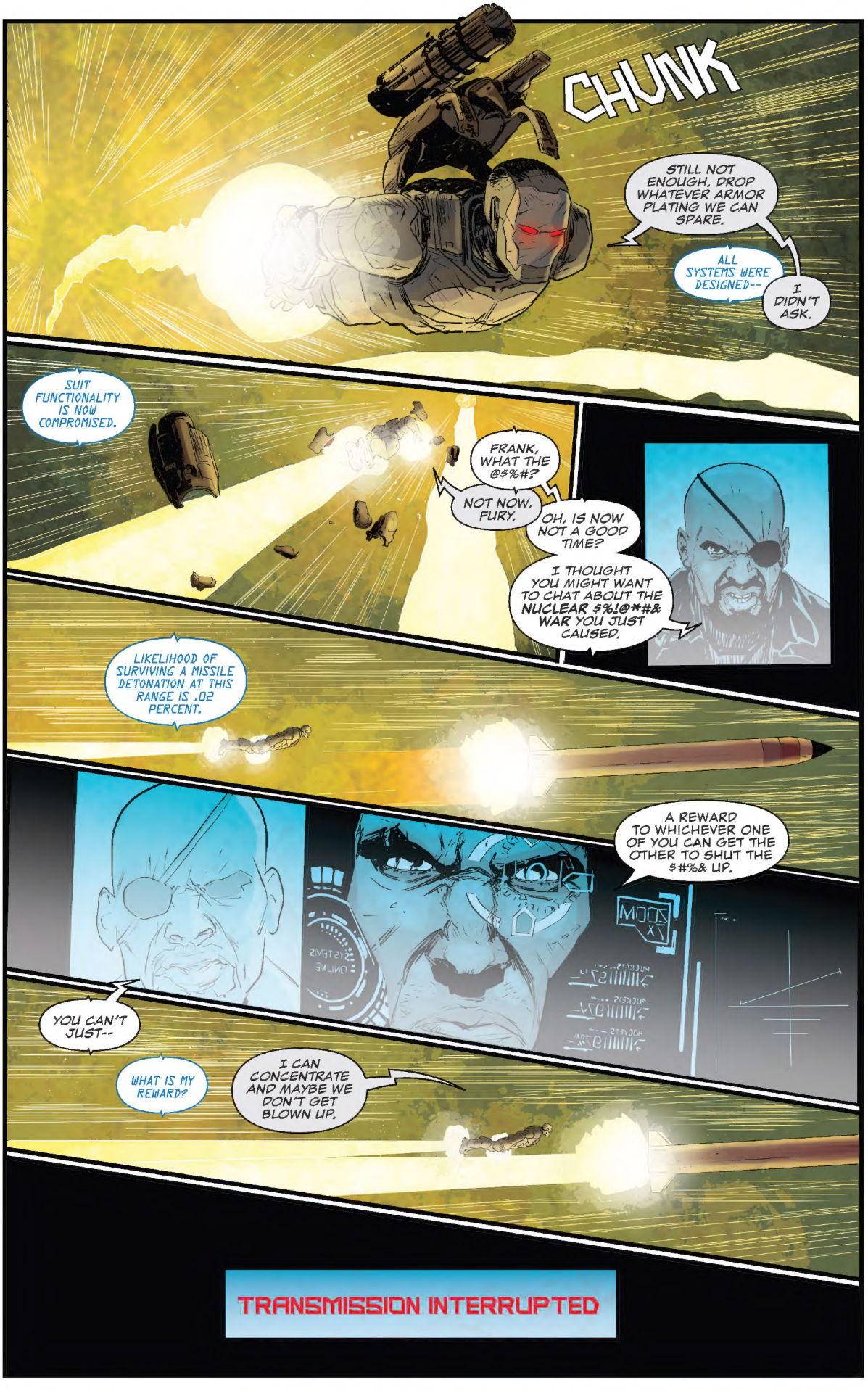
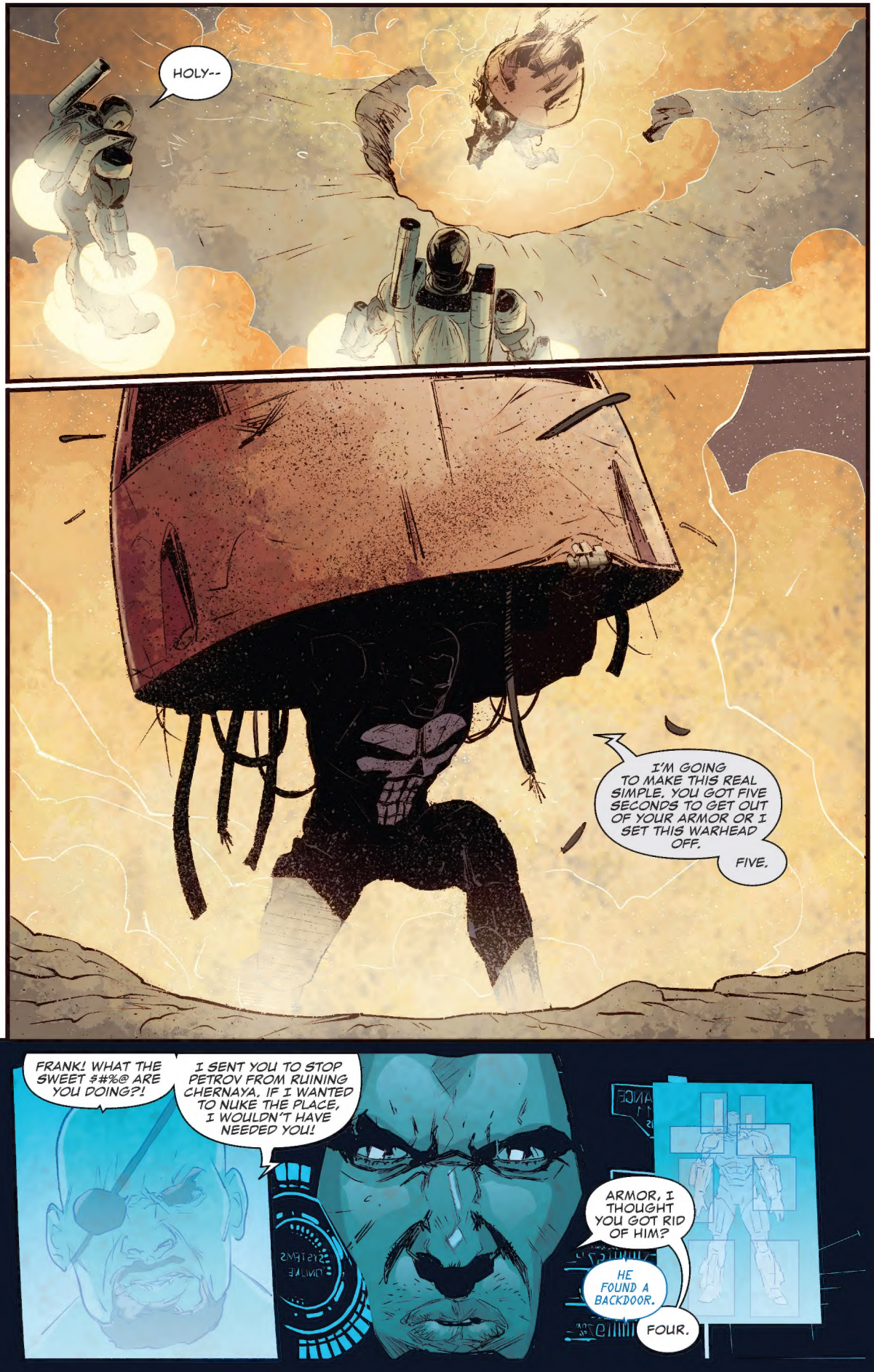
THE MISSILE IS MOVING FARTHER AWAY.
JUST TELL ME WHERE I CAN SHOOT THIS THING TO SLOW IT DOWN.
INADVISABLE. THE TITAN II-TYPE MISSILE USES A HYPERGOLIC PROPELLANT SYSTEM THAT IS HIGHLY COMBUSTIBLE WHEN EXPOSED TO THE ATMOSPHERE. FIRING ON IT COULD--
I GET IT. DON'T SHOOT.
IF I CAN'T USE THESE GUNS, THEY'RE DEAD WEIGHT. DROP THEM.
INADVISABLE. OUR WEAPONS SYSTEMS ARE--
DO IT.


CHUNK
STILL NOT ENOUGH. DROP WHATEVER ARMOR PLATING WE CAN SPARE.
ALL SYSTEMS WERE DESIGNED--
I DIDN'T ASK.
SUIT FUNCTIONALITY IS NOW COMPROMISED.
FRANK, WHAT THE @$%#?
NOT NOW, FURY.
OH, IS NOW NOT A GOOD TIME?
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANT TO CHAT ABOUT THE NUCLEAR $%!@*#& WAR YOU JUST CAUSED.
LIKELIHOOD OF SURVIVING A MISSILE DETONATION AT THIS RANGE IS .02 PERCENT.
A REWARD TO WHICHEVER ONE OF YOU CAN GET THE OTHER TO SHUT THE $#%& UP.
YOU CAN'T JUST--
WHAT IS MY REWARD?
I CAN CONCENTRATE AND MAYBE WE DON'T GET BLOWN UP.
TRANSMISSION INTERRUPTED

BOOM
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE SET IT OFF...
THAT WAS JUST THE FUEL IGNITING.
IF HE'D SET OFF THE WARHEAD, WE'D BOTH BE NOTHING BUT SILHOUETTES ALREADY.
WHAT THE HELL IS...
IT'S HIM!
THERE IS NO WAY HE SURVIVED THAT.
THOOM


HOLY--
I'M GOING TO MAKE THIS REAL SIMPLE. YOU GOT FIVE SECONDS TO GET OUT OF YOUR ARMOR OR I SET THIS WARHEAD OFF.
FIVE.
FRANK! WHAT THE SWEET $#%@ ARE YOU DOING?!
I SENT YOU TO STOP PETROV FROM RUINING CHERNAYA. IF I WANTED TO NUKE THE PLACE, I WOULDN'T HAVE NEEDED YOU!
ARMOR, I THOUGHT YOU GOT RID OF HIM?
HE FOUND A BACKDOOR.
FOUR.

MY WEAPONS ARE GONE. I CAN'T BEAT THEM. BUT IF I'M GOING DOWN, I CAN TAKE THEM AND THIS WHOLE GODFORSAKEN COUNTRY WITH ME. THREE.
WHO IS HE TALKING TO?!
HE'S LOST IT. HE'S LOST HIS MIND.
IF WE TAKE OFF THE ARMOR, HE'S JUST GONNA KILL US.
PRETTY SURE WE DIE IF HE NUKES US, TOO.
TWO.
MR. CASTLE... FRANK. I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE ANGRY. I GET IT. BUT THIS ISN'T THE ANSWER.
YOU'RE GOING TO KILL THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE. AND FOR WHAT? TO GET TO PETROV?
THAT BOMB SHELTER HE'S HOLED UP IN MIGHT NOT EVEN BE DAMAGED. HE MIGHT WALK AWAY.
ONE.
CAN YOU JUST PUT THE WARHEAD DOWN AND WE CAN--
TIME'S UP!
FRANK, NO!

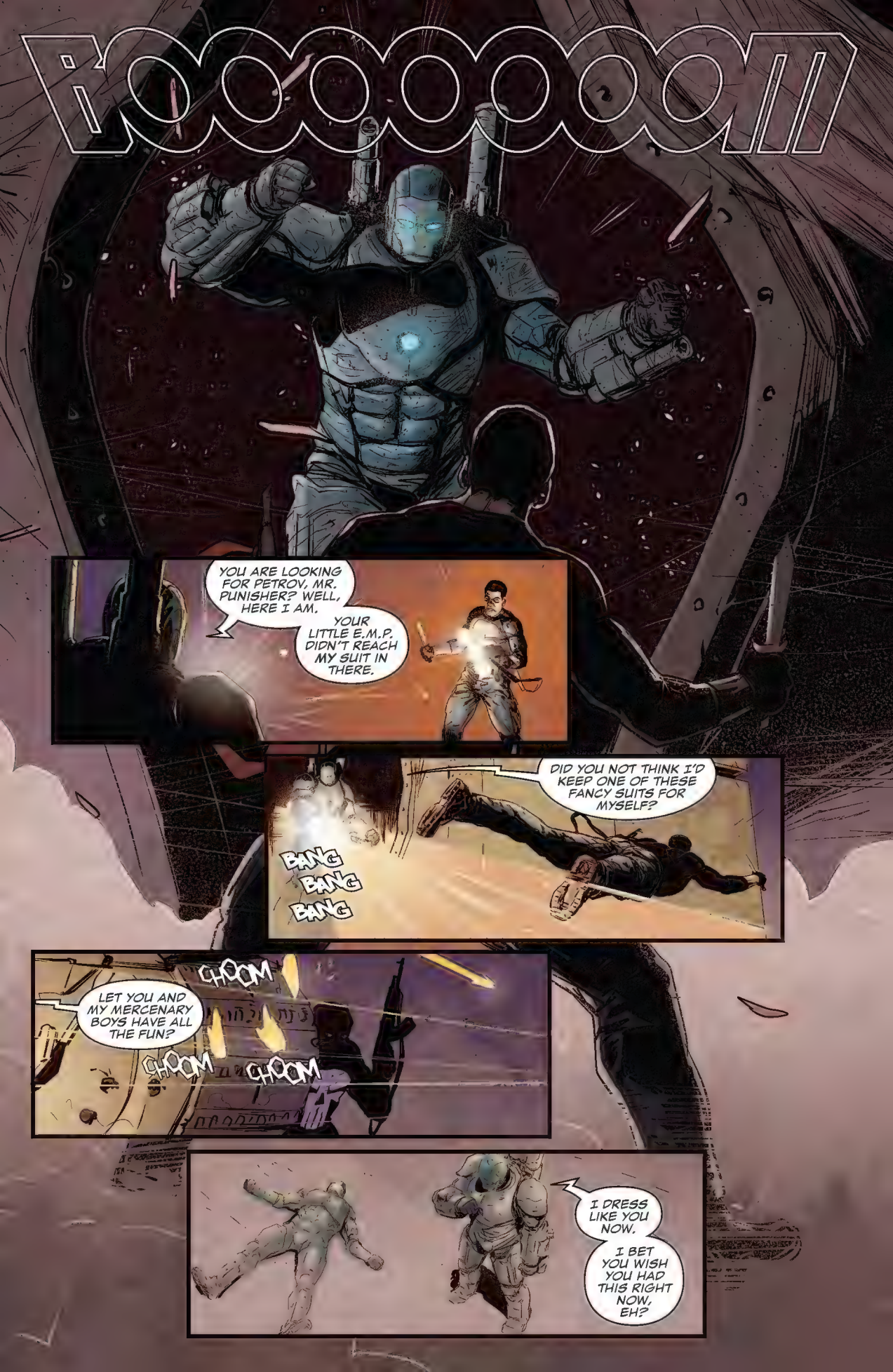
I SHOULDA DONE THIS DAYS AGO. FRANK, I'M SHUTTING YOU DOWN.
ZZZZZRRRRAAAZZZ
THUD

HSSSSSS
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
SOME KIND OF ELECTROMAGNETIC *PULSE* BOMB. FRIED OUR SUITS AND PROBABLY EVERYTHING WITHIN A HALF MILE.
INCLUDING HIS...SUIT...
YOU THINK THAT MAKES ME MORE DANGEROUS OR LESS?

WHAM
GONNA KILL YOU, YOU--
--AAAAH, $#%@!
OOF.
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS, TOUGH GUY?
IMPRESSIVE...
UHHHH...
SHOULD HAVE LED WITH THAT.
UHHH--
SKRUNCH

YOU FORGET...
...I WAS TRAINED BY S.H.I.E.L.D.
SLAM
AHHH!
SCHLUNK
YOU FORGET...
S.H.I.E.L.D. ISN'T @#$%.

PETROV! IT'S OVER. YOUR ARMY IS DEAD.
BANG BANG BANG
NOW EITHER YOU'RE COMING OUT OR I'M COMING IN.
CLANG
CRNNCH


KOOOOOM
YOU ARE LOOKING FOR PETROV, MR. PUNISHER? WELL, HERE I AM.
YOUR LITTLE E.M.P. DIDN'T REACH MY SUIT IN THERE.
DID YOU NOT THINK I'D KEEP ONE OF THESE FANCY SUITS FOR MYSELF?
BANG BANG BANG
LET YOU AND MY MERCENARY BOYS HAVE ALL THE FUN?
KHOOM
KHOOM
KHOOM
I DRESS LIKE YOU NOW.
I BET YOU WISH YOU HAD THIS RIGHT NOW, EH?

I'M DISAPPOINTED, MR. PUNISHER. YOU COME ALL THIS WAY, YOU KILL ALL MY MEN, AND FOR WHY?
WHEN YOU FINALLY GET TO ME, YOU HIDE?
CATCH.
BOOOM
NO!
<SON OF A--->*
*TRANSLATED FROM CHERNAYAN.

WELL PLAYED, FRANK, BUT--
CLINK
SHUNK
ARRRGH!
FUNNY THING ABOUT SAYING YOU WEAR THE SAME TYPE OF SUIT AS ME...
SLICE
...IT REMINDS ME I KNOW WHERE THE WEAK POINTS ARE. I'LL TAKE YOU APART PIECE BY PIECE IF I NEED TO.
OOF!
CHOOM!

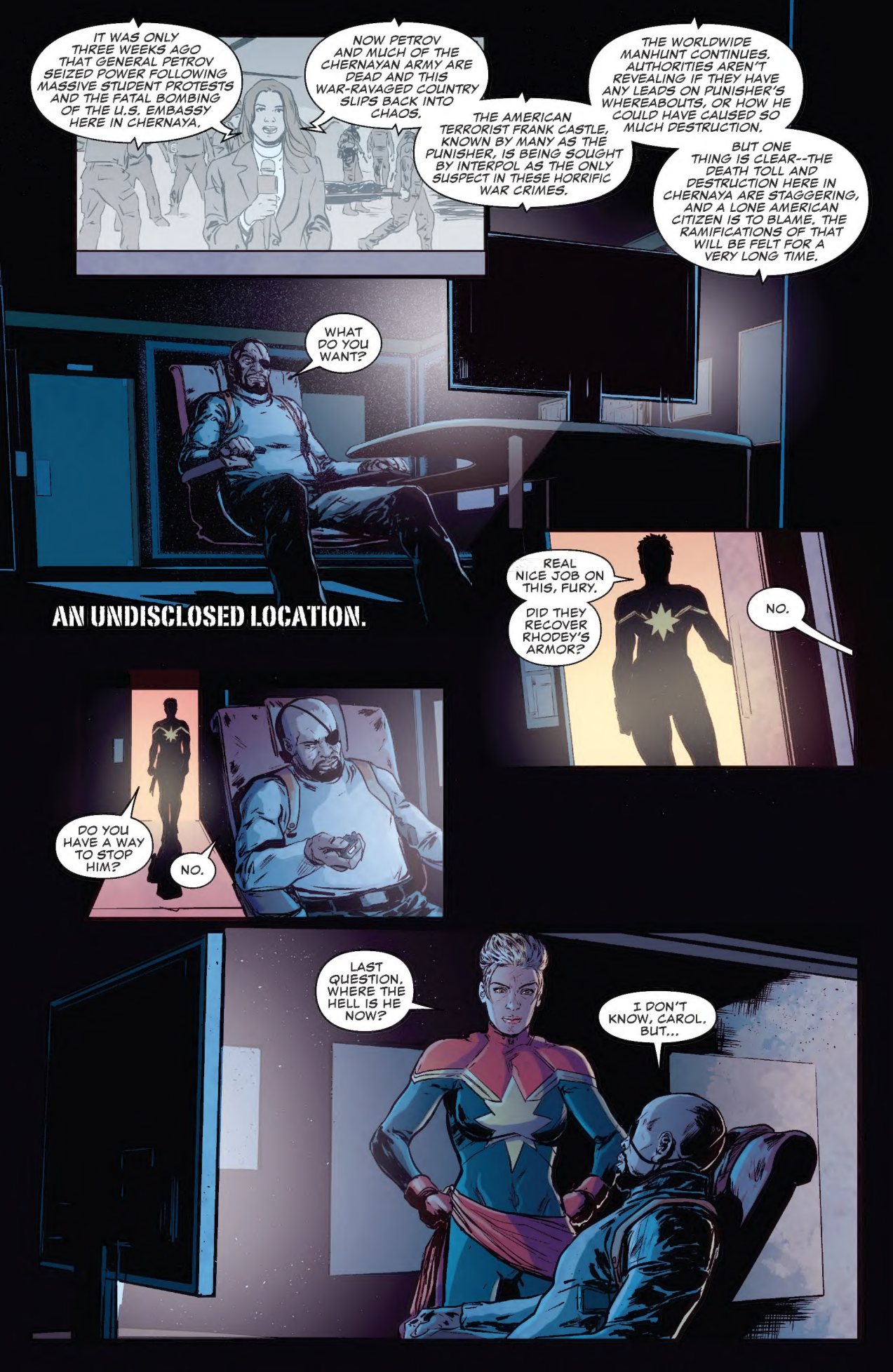
(WHAT DID YOU DO TO ME?)
ARRRGHHH!
AHHHHH!
SHUNK
GAHH!
THAT'S ONE.

<ENOUGH OF THIS.>
GET OFF!
SHUNK

YOU WANT A RIDE, MR. PUNISHER? FINE! LET'S SEE HOW LONG YOU CAN GO WITHOUT AIR!
IT MUST BE GETTING COLD. DO YOU HAVE ANY LAST WORDS, MR. PUNISHER?
S-SO ARE Y-YOU.
YOU'RE ALREADY DEAD. YOU'RE JUST TOO STUPID TO REALIZE IT, AMERICAN.
CLINK
FZZZT

NOOOO--
C'MON...
KSHZZZT

C'MON, YOU @!#$.
SHINK
YES!
WHAM


IT WAS ONLY THREE WEEKS AGO THAT GENERAL PETROV SEIZED POWER FOLLOWING MASSIVE STUDENT PROTESTS AND THE FATAL BOMBING OF THE U.S. EMBASSY HERE IN CHERNAYA.
NOW PETROV AND MUCH OF THE CHERNAYAN ARMY ARE DEAD AND THIS WAR-RAVAGED COUNTRY SLIPS BACK INTO CHAOS.
THE AMERICAN TERRORIST FRANK CASTLE, KNOWN BY MANY AS THE PUNISHER, IS BEING SOUGHT BY INTERPOL AS THE ONLY SUSPECT IN THESE HORRIFIC WAR CRIMES.
THE WORLDWIDE MANHUNT CONTINUES. AUTHORITIES AREN'T REVEALING IF THEY HAVE ANY LEADS ON PUNISHER'S WHEREABOUTS, OR HOW HE COULD HAVE CAUSED SO MUCH DESTRUCTION.
BUT ONE THING IS CLEAR--THE DEATH TOLL AND DESTRUCTION HERE IN CHERNAYA ARE STAGGERING, AND A LONE AMERICAN CITIZEN IS TO BLAME. THE RAMIFICATIONS OF THAT WILL BE FELT FOR A VERY LONG TIME.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
AN UNDISCLOSED LOCATION.
REAL NICE JOB ON THIS, FURY.
DID THEY RECOVER RHODEY'S ARMOR?
NO.
DO YOU HAVE A WAY TO STOP HIM?
NO.
LAST QUESTION. WHERE THE HELL IS HE NOW?
I DON'T KNOW, CAROL. BUT...

"...HE'LL TURN UP."
SO I SAYS TO HIM, "IF YOU'RE SO SMART, WHY ARE YOU WEARING A BIRD COSTUME?"
HA! THAT'S A GOOD ONE! THAT'S REALLY--
ARTHUR AVENUE. THE BRONX.
SMASH
WHO THE @$%# ARE YOU?
BOSS! THAT'S THE--
BOOM
NEXT: BACK IN THE NEW YORK GROOVE!

NEXT ISSUE

THE
PUNISHER
BRINGS THE
WAR HOME,
AND NOT
EVERYONE IS
HAPPY TO
SEE HIM.

YOU WON'T
WANT TO
MISS IT!

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